

7

History-Social  
Science Standard  
7.6.3.



# Managing Nature's Bounty: Feudalism in Medieval Europe

## California Education and the Environment Initiative

Approved by the California State Board of Education, 2010

### The Education and the Environment Curriculum is a cooperative endeavor of the following entities:

California Environmental Protection Agency  
California Natural Resources Agency  
Office of the Secretary of Education  
California State Board of Education  
California Department of Education  
California Integrated Waste Management Board

### Key Leadership for the Education and Environment Initiative:

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### Key Partners:

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### Office of Education and the Environment

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## **Lesson 1    Managing California's Resources**

None required for this lesson.

## **Lesson 2    Introducing Feudalism**

None required for this lesson.

## **Lesson 3    Life on the Manor**

In Their Own Words . . . . . 2

## **Lesson 4    To Market, to Market...**

Trade Goods . . . . . 3

## **Lesson 5    Of Nobles and Outlaws**

None required for this lesson.

## **Assessments**

Managing Nature's Bounty—Traditional Unit Assessment Master . . . . . 5

Feudalism and Natural Systems—Alternative Unit Assessment Master . . . . . 9

**Excerpt 1**

The steward [should]... [have] all the lord's lands measured by [honest] men, and he [should] know... how many acres there are in each field, and... how much wheat, rye, barley, oats, peas, and beans, one [should be able] to sow in each acre... Also, he can see how many acres [should] to be plowed... and how many acres remain to be tilled by the plows of the manor. (1275 CE)

**Excerpt 2**

The steward [should]... inquire how [the manors] are tilled, and what crops they [have]. [He should see] how the cart horses and oxen, cows, sheep, and swine are [taken care of]. He [should make sure there is] no waste or destruction on any manor... The steward should inquire about wrongdoings and trespasses done in parks and ponds and of all other things that [cost the] the lord [resources]. (1275 CE)

**Excerpt 3**

The steward of lands [should]... know the law of the realm, [in order] to protect his lord's business and to [assist]... the bailiffs who are beneath him. He [should], two or three times a year... visit the manors of his [lord], and then he [should] inquire about the rents, services... [not paid or completed], and about franchises of courts, lands, woods, meadows, pastures, waters, mills, and other things. (1275 CE)







**Excerpt 4**

The bailiff [who reports to the steward] helps to sow the lands, and [supervise] the plowers and harrowers at the time of each sowing... [During the hay harvest,] he [should supervise] the mowers, [and the collection of hay]. [In] August [he should] assemble... the [workers] and see that the corn [is] properly and cleanly gathered; [he should] watch so that nothing be stole, eaten by beasts, or spoilt. The bailiff must [supervise] all, [to see that] they all work well... If they do not [work] well let them be [punished]. (1275 CE)

## Trade Goods




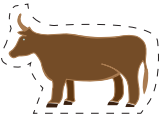




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**Instructions:** The table below shows the most popular trade goods found at markets in the Middle Ages. Cut out the icons for each of the goods and place them on the map of the **Physical Features and Natural Regions of Europe**, in the region where they most likely were gathered or made.

Europe	Trade Goods Produced			
North	Coal	Fish	Furs	Pitch (tar)
				
	Timber	Tin	Wool	
				
Central	Cloth	Copper	Grain	Iron
				
	Wine			
				
South	Olive Oil	Grain	Citrus	
				

## Trade Goods

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Europe	Trade Goods Produced			
West	Citrus 	Dried Fruits and Nuts 	Honey 	Leather 
East	Furs 	Grain 	Honey 	Wax 



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 1****Instructions:** Select the best answer and circle the correct letter. (2 points each)

1. In the feudal system, who controlled access to and use of natural resources?
  - a. lords
  - b. peasants
  - c. bailiffs
  - d. reeves
  
2. Which of the following was an ecosystem good that came from the forests of Europe?
  - a. game
  - b. land
  - c. rocks
  - d. fish
  
3. Which of the following is not an ecosystem service provided by the natural regions in Europe?
  - a. protection provided by mountains
  - b. transportation provided by rivers
  - c. hunting animals in the forests
  - d. fertile soil-producing crops
  
4. How did kings get the resources they needed?
  - a. Harvest them and bring them back to their manor.
  - b. Have vassals and peasants pay rent with goods and with service.
  - c. Pay peasants to harvest the resources they needed.
  - d. Only use the resources they had on land near them.
  
5. Which shows the correct power structure on the manors of the Middle Ages (most to least)?
  - a. lord, peasant, bailiff, steward
  - b. bailiff, steward, peasant, lord
  - c. lord, steward, bailiff, peasant
  - d. bailiff, peasant, lord, steward
  
6. Which of the following moved resources and goods from one manor to another?
  - a. rent
  - b. merchants
  - c. markets
  - d. All of the above.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

7. How did kings control merchants and trade?
  - a. They had the merchants pay for protection and charged tolls on the roads.
  - b. They allowed merchants to transport resources from region to region.
  - c. They built ships to carry cargo so that people could trade more.
  - d. All of the above.
8. How did feudalism change over time as conflicts over resources grew?
  - a. Lords lost control of the peasants on the manors and gave their lands to the king.
  - b. Knights became more powerful and fought the lords for their forestlands.
  - c. Merchants organized to take over all the cities and use them for markets.
  - d. Courts were created to settle disagreements over resource use and access.

**Part 2**

**Instructions:** Read the following selections from original charters. Select the best answer and circle the correct letter. (2 points each)

*"The steward of lands, [should]... know the law of the realm, [in order] to protect his lord's business and to [assist]... the bailiffs who are beneath him. He [should], two or three times a year... visit the manors of his [lord], and then he [should] inquire about the rents, services... [not paid or completed], and about ...lands, woods, meadows, pastures, waters... and other things."*

9. What does this paragraph describe?
  - a. How feudalism spread from England to the rest of Europe.
  - b. Feudalism's way of managing and controlling natural resources.
  - c. The ecosystem goods and ecosystem services available in the kingdoms.
  - d. How the market economy changed feudalism and towns.

*"I, Edgar give, to St. Peter's [Church] at Medhamsted, the [town] of Whittlesey. And I [command] that there be a market in the town itself, and that no other be between Stamford and Huntingdon. And I [command] that [there] be a toll [on the road to and from the town.]"*

10. What does this paragraph describe?
  - a. How feudalism spread from England to the rest of Europe.
  - b. Feudalism's way of managing and controlling natural resources.
  - c. The ecosystem goods and ecosystem services available in the kingdoms.
  - d. How the market economy changed feudalism and towns.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Part 3**

**Instructions:** Answer each of the following questions in complete sentences. (5 points each)

11. How did feudalism control the access to and use of natural resources in Europe?

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12. How did the medieval economy change as the manors grew?

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13. How did population growth and conflicts over resources lead to other changes in the feudal system?

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

14. In your opinion, what was the most valuable resource that the system of feudalism tried to manage and control? Why?

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15. In your opinion, what is similar between feudalism and the way we manage our natural resources today?

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## Feudalism and Natural Systems

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Name: \_\_\_\_\_

**Instructions:** Look carefully at the illustration and read the caption. Then, using descriptions and quotes from completed work in the unit, write a multi-paragraph essay in response to the prompt below.



Farming on the king's land

During the Middle Ages, a political system called feudalism developed. Feudalism had a strong connection to nature and the land. The natural world helped shape feudalism, and feudalism influenced natural systems. As feudalism developed, it laid the foundation for political order in medieval Europe.

**Prompt:** Explain how feudalism and natural systems interacted in medieval Europe.

Include the following in your essay:

- an introduction that outlines your essay
- an explanation of how feudalism developed as a way to produce and control ecosystem goods and ecosystem services
- an explanation of feudalism's role in the medieval economy
- an explanation of how feudalism influenced the distribution of goods and services
- examples of how feudalism's role in the economy influenced the political order of medieval Europe
- examples of ways that physical geography influenced the development of feudalism
- a conclusion

The scoring tool on the following page will be used to score your writing.



Name: \_\_\_\_\_

### Feudalism and Natural Systems Scoring Tool

Component	4 points	3 points	2 points	1 point
<b>Development of Feudalism</b>	Uses a variety of examples to explain the development of feudalism as a means of producing and controlling ecosystem goods and ecosystem services.	Explains the development of feudalism as a means of producing and controlling ecosystem goods and ecosystem services.	Offers limited explanation of the development of feudalism as a means of producing and controlling ecosystem goods and ecosystem services.	Offers limited discussion of the development of feudalism as a means of producing and controlling ecosystem goods and ecosystem services.
<b>Role of Feudalism in the Medieval Economy</b>	Discusses influence of feudal relationships on the medieval economy; explains multiple relationships.	Discusses influence of feudal relationships on the medieval economy.	Offers limited discussion of the influence of feudalism on the medieval economy with some inaccuracies.	Offers limited discussion of feudalism's influence on medieval economy; historically inaccurate.
<b>Distribution and Control of Goods</b>	Offers extensive discussion of the ways in which feudalism controlled ecosystem goods and ecosystem services.	Identifies multiple ways in which feudalism controlled ecosystem goods and ecosystem services.	Identifies one or two ways in which feudalism controlled ecosystem goods and ecosystem services with some inaccuracies.	Identifies one way in which feudalism controlled ecosystem goods and ecosystem services; historically inaccurate.
<b>Political Order</b>	Uses a variety of historical examples to describe how feudalism's role in the economy influenced political order.	Describes how feudalism's role in the economy influenced political order.	Offers limited discussion of how feudalism's role in the economy influenced political order with some inaccuracies.	Offers limited discussion of how feudalism's role in the economy influenced political order; historically inaccurate.
<b>Influence of Physical Geography on Feudalism</b>	Uses multiple examples to explain influence of physical geography on feudalism.	Explains the influence of physical geography on feudalism; provides two or more examples.	Offers limited explanation of physical geography's influence on feudalism; provides one example.	Mentions physical geography's influence on feudalism; provides no examples.

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## Alternative Unit Assessment Master | page 4 of 4

[illegible]







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